

REMARKS

Applicants are amending their claims by incorporating the subject matter of claim 1 into claim 31. That is, Applicants are amending claim 31 to recite a semiconductor device encapsulated by the encapsulating solid epoxy resin molding material according to claim 1. Note, for example, page 1, lines 17-26, of Applicants' specification.

Initially, it is respectfully requested that the present amendments be entered, notwithstanding Finality of the Office Action mailed October 18, 2007. Noting that claim 1 has been allowed, in the Office Action mailed October 18, 2007, and that the subject matter of claim 1 has now been incorporated into claim 31, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments clearly materially limit issues remaining in connection with the above-identified application, presenting all claims, including claim 31, in condition for allowance. Noting that the Examiner has indicated allowability of subject matter of claim 1 for the first time in the Final Office Action mailed October 18, 2007, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments to claim 31 are clearly timely. Clearly, present amendments to claim 31 do not raise any new issues, including any issue of new matter, noting portions of Applicants' specification referred to previously, and arguments made in the Remarks of the Amendment filed August 27, 2007.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have made the necessary showing under 37 CFR 1.116(b); and that, accordingly, entry of the present amendments is clearly proper.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-20, 23-25 and 28-30. Note particularly the comment by the Examiner in Item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed October 18, 2007, that

January 18, 2008

none of the references, including the reference of Tomiyoshi '940 (U.S. Patent No. 5,137,940 to Tomiyoshi, et al., applied by the Examiner in rejecting claim 31), discloses the recitations as set forth in claims 1, 2 and 4. By the present amendments, the recitations in claim 1 have been incorporated into claim 31. Accordingly, at least for this reason, it is respectfully submitted that present claim 31 patentably distinguishes over the teachings of Tomiyoshi, et al., under the requirements of 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, entry of the present amendments, and reconsideration and allowance of all claims presently pending in the above-identified application, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 1204.45467X00), and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By /William I. Solomon/
William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

WIS/ksh
1300 N. 17th Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Tel: 703-312-6600
Fax: 703-312-6666